

(e) and (f). The Tea Board has already been operating various developmental schemes for increasing tea production. These schemes provide for long term loan, subsidy and grants-in-aid for the purpose of new planting, replanting, rejuvenation and infilling, creation of irrigation facilities, procurement of processing machineries, etc.

Support Price to cotton Growers

4899. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN
YADAV:
SHRI VILASRAO
NAGNATHRAO
GUNDEWAR:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the average support prices paid by the Cotton Corporation of India of the various varieties of cotton during 1990-91 and 1991-92 and prices fixed for 1992-93 season;

(b) whether the support prices of cotton varies from State to State; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) The Cotton Corporation of India procures cotton at the minimum support prices fixed by Government when the market prices of *kapas* fall below the MSP fixed by Government. Since the market prices of *kapas* were ruling above the support prices during 1990-91 and 1991-92 cotton seasons the CCI did not effect any purchases under price support operations in those years. Government has not yet fixed the MSP for cotton for 1992-93 cotton season.

(b) and (c). The support price of cotton varies from variety to variety, depending upon the spinnability of the variety.

[English]

Farming of Remunerative Products by Tobacco Growers

4901. SHRI G. M. C. BALAYOG: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in view of worldwide campaign to discourage cigarette smoking, the Government propose to encourage farming of other remunerative products to help farmers growing tobacco; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED): (a) No, sir.

(b). In spite of anti-smoking campaigns, the demand for tobacco is continuing and is likely to continue for some more years.

[Translation]

Production of Silk

4902. SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO;
SHRI K. H. MUNIYAPPA:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state;

(a) whether the Government have any plan to provide better quality of silk eggs to the farmers of Karnataka to boost the production of silk; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI ASHOK GEHLOT): (a) and (b). In Order to provide quality silkworm eggs to the farmers of Karnataka, the Central Silk Board has taken up the following programmes in the State:-

1. Establishment of 5 Basic Seed Farms (1 P4, 1P3 and 3 Basic Seed Farm) for production of Basic Seed required in preparation of quality silkworm eggs.

2. Establishment of 7 Silkworm Seed Production Centres for the production and supply of quality disease free layings (silkworm eggs)

3. Establishment of 2 Cold Storage Plants for preservation of silkworm layings, moths etc

4. Establishment of a Silkworm Seed Technological Laboratory for undertaking research for production of quality silkworm seed.

5. Establishment of 44 Chawkie Rearing Centres.

Restriction on Import of goods

4903. DR. LAL BAHADUR RAWAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to impose restriction on import of goods to encourage the maximum use of indigenous goods;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to stop the craze of people for foreign goods?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) to (c). The new Export and Import Policy effective from 1st April, 1992 is presently under formulation. It is premature to furnish any details thereof at this stage.

[English]

Export of Copra and Betelnuts

4904. SHRI HARIN PATHAK: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether copra and betelnuts are exported from Car Nicobar islands;

(b) if so, the quantity of export made during the last three years; and

(c) the agency through which these are exported?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHED): (a) to (c). Export of copra is not allowed as per the Import & Export Policy, 1990-93. Export of betelnuts is freely allowed. India's total exports of betelnuts for the last 4 years are as under:-

	Quantity (MT)	Value (Rs. '000)
1988-89	570	15547
1989-90	353	13029
1990-91	355	17276
Aprl Dec.91	436	26951

Figures of exports from Car Nicobar islands are not maintained separately

[Translation]

Poppy Cultivation

4905. SHRI SWAMI SURESHANAND: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state: